

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus comprising:

a plurality of processors;

a trace circuit configured to present information at a
port for debugging software in a selected processor of said
5 processors; and

a connector circuit configured to (i) couple said trace
circuit to said selected processor in response to a select signal
and (ii) transfer said information from said selected processor to
said trace circuit while said selected processor is executing said
10 software.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said
connector circuit is further configured to transfer data from said
trace circuit to said selected processor.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said
connector circuit is further configured to transfer a first test
data stream received by said selected processor to said trace
circuit.

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4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said connector circuit is further configured to transfer a second test data stream from said trace circuit to said selected processor.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said connector circuit comprises:

a first circuit configured to (i) transfer said information from said selected processor to said trace circuit, (ii) transfer data from said trace circuit to said selected processor, and (iii) present a predetermined logic state to said processors other than said selected processor; and

a second circuit configured to (i) transfer a first test data stream received by said selected processor to said trace circuit, (ii) transfer a second test data stream from said trace circuit to said selected processor, and (iii) present a second predetermined logic state to said processors other than said selected processor.

6. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said first circuit comprises:

a first multiplexer configured to multiplex said information from said processors to said trace circuit in response to said select signal; and

a first plurality of gates each coupled to one of said processors and configured to (i) transfer said data while selected by said select signal and (ii) present said predetermined logic state while not selected by said select signal.

7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said second circuit comprises:

a second multiplexer configured to multiplex a plurality of first test data streams received by said processors to said trace circuit in response to said select signal; and

a second plurality of gates each coupled to one of said processors and configured to (i) transfer a second test data stream while selected by said select signal and (ii) present said second predetermined logic state while not selected by said select signal.

8. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein each of said gates comprises a logical AND gate having at least one input configured to receive said select signal.

9. A method for debugging software in a selected processor of a plurality of processors comprising the steps of:

(A) coupling a trace circuit to said selected processor in response to a select signal;

5 (B) transferring said information from said selected processor to said trace circuit while said selected processor is executing said software; and

(C) presenting said information received by said trace circuit at a port.

10. The method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of transferring data from said trace circuit to said selected processor.

11. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of transferring a first test data stream received by said selected processor to said trace circuit.

12. The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of transferring a second test data stream from said trace circuit to said selected processor.

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13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of presenting a predetermined logic state to said processors other than said selected processor in response to transferring said data.

14. The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of presenting a second predetermined logic state to said processors other than said selected processor in response to transferring said second test data stream.

15. The method according to claim 12, wherein said step of transferring said information comprises the sub-step of multiplexing said information in response to said select signal.

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein said step of transferring said data comprises the sub-step of gating said data in response to said select signal.

17. The method according to claim 16, wherein said step of transferring said first test data stream comprises the sub-step

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of multiplexing said first test data stream in response to said select signal.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein said step of transferring said second test data stream comprises the sub-step of gating said second test data stream in response to said select signal.

19. An apparatus comprising:

means for coupling a trace circuit to a selected processor of a plurality of processors in response to a select signal;

means for transferring information from said selected processor to said trace circuit while said selected processor is executing said software; and

means for presenting said information received by said trace circuit at a port.